

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 NIC-01

OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /140 W  
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R 120925Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9890

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 0916

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, BE

SUBJECT: BELGIAN LABOR LEADER SAYS ENTRY OF CHRISTIAN UNIONS INTO

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ETUC WOULD MEAN MORE CAUTIOUS APPROACHES TO COMMUNIST UNIONS

PRESIDENT JOSEPH HOUTHUYS OF THE BELGIAN CONFEDERATIONS OF CHRISTIAN TRADE UNIONS (CSC) AND OF THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION OF THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (EO/WCL) TOLD THE EMBASSY LABOR ATTACHE FEBRUARY 8 THAT HE WAS OPPOSED TO ENTRY OF COMMUNIST UNIONS INTO THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ETUC) FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, TO EAST/WEST EUROPEAN LABOR CONFERENCES OUTSIDE THE ILO FRAMEWORK, AND TO COOPERATION WITH SOVIET AND OTHER EAST EUROPEAN TRADE UNIONS WITHOUT EXTENSIVE AND LENGTHY TESTING OF THEIR INTENTIONS. HE THOUGHT THE GREATEST DANGER OF HASTY, ILL-ADVISED RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC AND COMMUNIST TRADE UNIONS IN EUROPE LAY IN ATTEMPTS OF THE GERMAN DGB AND THE BRITISH TUC TO EXPLOIT CONTACTS WITH THE SOVIETS IN THEIR RIVALRY FOR LEADERSHIP AMONG WEST EUROPEAN UNIONS, AND IN LEFT-WING TENDENCIES WITHIN THE TUC ITSELF. HE SAID ENTRY OF THE CRHISTIAN TRADE UNIONS INTO THE ETUC WOULD STRENGTHEN OPPOSITON TO ADMISSION OF COMMUNIST UNIONS AND HELP GENERALLY TO KEEP RELATIONS BETWEEN WEST EUROPE'S DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNIONS AND EAST EUROPE'S TRADEUNIONS FROM GETTING OUT OF CONTROL. IN THIS RESPECT, HE SAID, AMERICANS SHOULD NOT CONFUSE CHIRSTIAN SUPPORT FOR EAST-WEST LABOR "CONTACTS" WITH A DESIRE FOR "COOPERATION", OR INTERPRET CHRISTIAN TACTICS IN THE ILO OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL CONTEXTS AS A WEAKENING OF THE STRONG ATTACHMENT OF EUROPE'S CHRISTIAN UNIONS, INCLUDING THE

FRENCH, TO "PRINCIPLE" OF FREE AND DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNIONISM. DETAILS BY AIRGRAM. STRAUZS-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EAST WEST TRADE, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, COMMUNIST MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BRUSSE00916  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BRUSSELS  
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**Line Count:** 91  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BELGIAN LABOR LEADER SAYS ENTRY OF CHRISTIAN UNIONS INTO CONFIDENTIAL  
**TAGS:** ELAB, BE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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